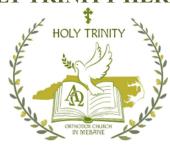
# **HOLY TRINITY HERALD**



July 2020, №16

http://holytrinitymission.com/index.php/ru/https://www.facebook.com/russian.church/

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#### **Dear brothers and sisters!**



One year has passed since Father Nikon became rector in our church. Last year, in order to get to know Father Nikon, the editorial board of the Trinity Herald asked him to tell us about himself. And today we again ask our abbot to share his impressions of service in our church, and of plans for the future.

1. A year has passed. Have your first, "enthusiastic impressions," as you said about your arrival changed?

F. Nikon: Absolutely not. On the contrary, rather, my initial impression of the wonderful people in our community and of the wide opportunities and

prospects of church service in North Carolina has been bolstered. Of course, there were difficulties, but they did not spoil the "enthusiastic impression", but gave me strength, with the help of God, to continue to strengthen and increase what already exists. The most important thing is for us to maintain and strengthen our relationship with Christ, to unify our hearts, and to sincerely strive for a genuine spiritual life.

2. Then, in your first interview, you said that the parish carries "huge development potential". Can you summarize your first year of service in our temple? And how do you see the path for further development of our parish community?

F. Nikon: The development potential of the parish is undoubtedly great, and we are constantly trying to realize it, which, of course, is always a rather complicated and lengthy process. It seems to me that the



main result of the past year is that the parish, despite some former irregularities, rallied and, most importantly, was revived! It is very scary when the community does not develop, does not move forward, it's as if it fixates on what already exists and falls into a certain suspended state. But we have prospects, possibilities, and the desire of people to create and multiply. This is the result and the path of further development. To tell everyone that we exist, to carry the word of God, to become a home for many more people, to actively participate in cultural and social life.

3. Has your view of the specifics of foreign Orthodoxy and parishes in America changed?

F. Nikon: Actually, no. The specifics of foreign church life is fully consistent with my original ideas, for which I was ready. Another thing is that each parish community has its own way of life and its own characteristics. But this is a completely natural occurrence in any country and in the Church, and the priest can only "orient on the ground" with God's help and pastoral prudence.

4. If priests make plans for the future, what are your plans?

F. Nikon: There is a common worldly expression: "If you want to humor God, tell Him about your plans." I certainly have some expectations and prospects, but the most important plan, task and goal is to honestly, sparing no energy, perform our priestly ministry.

5. We parishioners would like to know more about our abbot. How do you live here in America?

F. Nikon: America is a beautiful country, although, of course, it is peculiar in some ways that are unfamiliar to me. However, our entire wonderful world, created by the Lord, in its amazing variety, is for us a way to recognize God and the miracle of life. Therefore, for me, America is an invaluable experience and an amazing adventure in which the Lord reveals previously unknown facets of human existence. And it's incredibly interesting.

6. Do you have a spiritual mentor (spiritual father) or someone else who spiritually supports you here, away from your homeland?

F. Nikon: I met people in my life that I could sincerely seek spiritual advice, wise instruction, a word of support and comfort: this is my Metropolitan, under whose guidance I began my priesthood and worked

for many years; and my close friends, also clothed in the holy order; and other godly and experienced shepherds with sufficient knowledge and spiritual skill.

7. Please tell us about your missionary work that you carried out in Russia. Is it possible to arrange the same work in North Carolina, given the fact that a large number of Russian-speaking people live here?

F. Nikon: My missionary work in Russia was extensive and it's rather difficult to fit everything into a few sentences. When I first began my work for example, in my native Krasnoyarsk diocese, I was engaged in building relations between the Church and higher educational institutions. In NC, not only can we establish missionary work, but we should! Development is a priority for us. Of course, due to the specifics of America and the fact that this is a new direction for our church, the whole process is somewhat more complicated, but we are already taking the first active steps. And there are many plans ahead.

### MAIN HOLIDAY IN JULY



# Of the apostles of Peter and Paul (July, 12)

The holiday, established in memory of the apostles Peter and Paul, is intransient, that is, the date is fixed. It is on July 12th. Historians have no consensus on the date of death of the apostles Peter and Paul, but there is a certain church tradition. Hierarch Dimitry of Rostov (the author of the collection of the lives of saints - "The Lives of the Mineas") writes that the death of the apostles occurred either on the same day, or with a difference of exactly one year.

The appearance of the feast of Peter and Paul is also associated with the day of the transfer of their relics in Rome, which took place on July 12

(June 29 according to the old calendar) of the year 258. In 324, under Emperor Constantine, the first temples were built in honor of Peter and Paul in both capitals of the Roman Empire, Rome and Constantinople. Since then, the holiday has gradually become one of the most famous Orthodox holidays.

The Slavs began to honor the day of Peter and Paul immediately after the Baptism of Russia. According to Church Tradition, the first icon of the holy apostles on Russian soil was brought by Prince Vladimir - from Korsun. This icon was presented as a gift to the Novgorod Sophia Cathedral. The image of the Apostle Peter has been preserved to this day. The first monastery in honor of the apostles was built in Novgorod in 1185. The names of the apostles were often used by saints of Ancient Russia, and images of Peter and Paul can always be seen in the iconostasis of Orthodox churches.

At the end of the Petrov Lent - July 12, the day of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul - we will remember their death, their transition to eternal life. These people illuminated our faith, it was through them that Christianity spread mainly throughout the world.

Troparion to the Apostles Peter and Paul

Apostles of universal teaching, Lord of all, we pray for great mercy to our souls.

## JULY HOLIDAY CALENDAR

JULY 1, THE BOGOLYUBSKY ICON OF THE MOTHER OF GOD (HTTPS://DAYS.PRAVOSLAVIE.RU/LIFE/LIFE1339.HTM)

JULY 2 OF THE APOSTLE JUDE, BROTHER OF THE LORD (HTTPS://AZBYKA.RU/DAYS/SV-IUDA-IAKOVLEV-LEVVEJ)

JULY 6, THE VLADIMIR ICON OF THE MOTHER OF GOD (HTTPS://www.pravmir.ru/vladimirskaya-ikona-bozhiej-materi-2/)

July 7 Christmas of the Honorable Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord John (https://foma.ru/7-iyulya-2013-rozhdestvo-ioanna-predtechi.html)

July 8 of the Blessed Prince Peter and Princess Fevronia, Murom Wonderworkers (https://azbyka.ru/days/saint/295/6080/group)

JULY 9TH OF THE TIKHVIN ICON OF THE MOTHER OF GOD (HTTP://www.patriarchia.ru/db/text/914259.html)

JULY 13 CATHEDRAL OF THE GLORIOUS AND ALL-VALUED TWELVE APOSTLES (HTTPS://AZBYKA.RU/DAYS/SV-SOBOR-SLAVNYH-I-VSEHVALNYH-12-TI-APOSTOLOV)

JULY 17 OF THE HOLY ROYAL MARTYRS (HTTPS://WWW.OPTINA.RU/HOLIDAYS/0717/)

JULY 18, ST. SERGIUS OF RADONEZH

(HTTP://WWW.PATRIARCHIA.RU/DB/TEXT/28942.HTML)

JULY 21 OF THE KAZAN ICON OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

(HTTP://RADONEZ1.RU/HOLLYDAY/21-IYULYA-DEN-KAZANSKOJ-IKONY-BOZHEJ-MATERI/)

JULY 23, St. Anthony of the Caves

(HTTP://WWW.PATRIARCHIA.RU/DB/TEXT/272333.HTML)

JULY 28, EQUAL TO THE APOSTLES PRINCE VLADIMIR

(HTTPS://AZBYKA.RU/DAYS/SV-VEL-KN-VLADIMIR-V-KRESHCHENII-VASILIJ)

#### PARISH LIFE



On the day of the Holy Trinity, June 7, our temple resumed "open" worship. Observing all the necessary preventive measures and medical precautions, such as wearing masks, distancing etc., we, as before, with great joy, celebrated our Patronal Feast. The Divine Liturgy was held in our church, as well as the procession around our church.

In July, the doors of our church will be open to all, not only during Sunday Liturgies, but also during evening (Saturday) and other divine services. However, visiting the temple these days is entirely your decision. If you, in this situation, continue to refrain from

attending church - this is by no means a kind of cowardice and abandonment of worship, but really a feat of love and judgment, as our abbot Father Nikon spoke about throughout the quarantine.

Those who genuinely have the desire and need to begin the Sacraments of Confession and Communion, but refrain from attending Divine services, can, by agreement with the abbot, come to church on a weekday outside the Liturgy. You can also invite the priest home to perform the Sacraments, if for reasons of illness or complete self-isolation it is not possible to get to the church.

Please follow the service schedule on our ward page: holytrinitymission.com.

Every Sunday service, as before, is broadcast live on facebook: facebook.com/russian.church (the broadcast starts at 10 o'clock).

Notes on the health and commemoration of the deceased can be sent to Father Nikon by e-mail: rector@holytrinitymission.com.

In May-June, our parish made major internal repairs in our church. We ask for your donations to cover the expenses made when purchasing the necessary materials for repair: paint, floor, shelves, tools, etc.

More complete and up-to-date information about the life of our church will be constantly updated on the website of our parish and on Facebook: holytrinitymission.com; facebook.com/russian.church

# SISTERHOOD ST. TATIANA



Our sisters are always very active in all spheres of our parish community. And during the repair of the temple our sisters under the pastoral leadership of Fr. Nikon helped paint and lay the floor, and carried out a general cleaning of the temple, including the kitchen and hall. They also decorated the temple with flowers and maintained the flower garden near the temple.

Sisters are pleased to see how "new" sisters join our efforts. We are grateful to note the help of our sister **Ekaterina Negoda** in the repair of the church. She not only actively participated in the painting of the church, but also helped to lay the floor in the church.

An application for entry into the Sisterhood can be obtained by writing to the email address: sisterhood@holytrinitymission.com

#### PARISHIONERS RECOMMEND



In April 2020, an 8-episode film of Metropolitan Hilarion Alfeyev of Volokolamsk

was released "Jesus Christ."

The film keeps you in constant awe and allows you to learn more about the earthly life of Jesus Christ. The study of the Lord is of tremendous importance for the Christian life, especially for the younger g e n e r a t i o n . h t t p s : // w w w . y o u t u b e . c o m / w a t c h ? v=FQmzUWOTNDo&list=PLk0EsKuK3rZBLmnyQ8h0EESEcwlMlOqiD



An interesting article is proposed, "7% of Selected Quotes." Everyone knows "Ladder" - one of the spiritual books, mainly for monks. The author of the article made a selection containing about 7% of the "Ladder", useful for reading to the laity, for their spiritual development. https://pravoslavie.ru/92414.html

#### PHOTOS OF THE MONTH



Around the temple, maintained by Sisterhood, is a flower garden, which pleases us all with its beautiful appearance. Parishioner Lyubov Vanyashina cares for the flower garden



Our youngest parishioner is actively involved in the life of our church.

## **YOUR HELP**

We ask you to support the church with prayer to God and with donations. You can send your donations:

- 1. A Check written to the address of the church: Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, 6803 US 70, Mebane, NC 27302
- 2. Online through PayPal, find the "Donate" link in the upper right corner of our website: holytrinitymission.com

3. Via AmazonSmile when shopping on Amazon. To do this, on the site smile.amazon.com in charity support you can choose the Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, Mebane NC. A small percentage of the purchase payment will be automatically transferred (donated).